



Montana Public Service Commission
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November 14, 2006

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Advanced Coal Technology/Renewable Energy Integration Presentation Scheduled

Helena, MT, November 14, 2006 – Today, Governor Brian Schweitzer and Public Service Commission Chairman Greg Jergeson announced their offices' joint sponsorship of a panel presentation by great plains/upper Midwest energy leaders on some of the emerging opportunities available utilizing advanced coal technology and renewable energy integration. The panel will include Roger Johnson, North Dakota Commissioner of Agriculture, Charlie Bullinger, senior principal engineer at Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station, Mike Gregerson, consultant with Great Plains Institute and Beth Soholt, executive director of Wind on the Wires.

The panelists come from a larger group of 27 industry executives, state regulators, elected officials, and environmental advocates from 11 states, including Montana, who have been studying firsthand the next generation of advanced gasification technologies that gasify coal and biomass to produce electric power, syngas, liquid fuels, chemicals and hydrogen and that have the capability to capture carbon dioxide emissions for geologic storage. As part of their study activities, panel members traveled to Europe for site visits where these technologies are being employed already. While there, panel members were briefed by Dutch and German industry executives and government officials about European policies and strategies. The group's efforts have been organized by the Great Plains Institute and sponsored by the Edgerton Foundation.

WHAT

- **Energy presentation by Governor Brian Schweitzer**
- Briefing by regional energy leaders:
 - Roger Johnson, North Dakota Commissioner of Agriculture and Member, State Industrial Commission
 - Charlie Bullinger, Senior Principal Engineer, Great River Energy
 - Mike Gregerson, former utility executive, consultant with Great Plains Institute
 - Beth Soholt, Executive Director, Wind on the Wires
- Questions and discussion with audience
- Media availability to follow

WHEN AND WHERE

1:00 P.M., Tuesday, November 21
Room 172
State Capitol Building
Helena, MT

WHO'S INVITED

- Representatives of the coal, utility, and oil and gas industries
- State officials and legislators
- Conservation and environmental organizations
- Members of the media
- General public

AGENDA

Welcome, Energy Presentation and Q&A

- Brian Schweitzer, Governor of Montana

Presentation of delegation program, key findings, implications and next steps

- Roger Johnson, Commissioner of Agriculture, Bismarck, ND
- Charlie Bullinger,, Senior principal engineer, Great River Energy, Underwood, ND
- Mike Gregerson, former utility industry executive, consultant with Great Plains Institute
- Beth Soholt, Director, Wind on the Wires, St. Paul, Minnesota
- Brad Crabtree, Program director, Great Plains Institute

Q&A and discussion

Closing remarks

- Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service Commission